

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1550
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2007
ALLOTMENT OF COAL BLOCKS
Mehta Shri Bhubneshwar Prasad

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of coal blocks allotted to private and Government sector companies till date, alongwith the dates on which the said allotments were made, State wise;
- (b) whether coal production has started in all the allotted coal blocks;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not the reasons therefor;
- (d) the names of the companies which have not started production from the coal blocks allotted to them till date and the action taken by the Government against them; and
- (e) whether the coal extracted therefrom is supplied to the factories or is being sold in open market?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO)

(a): As on date 165 coal blocks have been allocated which include 103 blocks allocated to State and Central public sector companies and 62 blocks allocated to private companies. A list indicating the names of coal blocks, allocatee companies, sector for which block has been allocated is given at Annexure-I

(b)& (c): Out of the 165 coal blocks allocated, 13 coal blocks have started production. Details of 13 coal blocks which have already started production are given in Annexure – II.

Reasons for not starting coal production is given below:

- i) The allocatees of coal blocks, who have not started production so far, are in various stages of obtaining statutory clearances and mining lease, preparing mining plan, acquiring land, machinery and equipments etc for both the mining as well end-use project. The progress achieved by them against certain given milestones are reviewed by the Screening Committee from time to time.
- ii) Development of coal blocks involves a long gestation of about 3 to 5 years to reach production stage and about another two years to reach its optimal production capacity.

(d): Except 13 coal blocks as indicated in Annexure-II, rest of the coal blocks have not come to the stage of production. Specific milestones are laid down for development of coal blocks. This is monitored and reviewed periodically. In case of wilful delays, notices are issued, where warranted, de- allocation of coal blocks could be considered.

(e): (i) Out of 13 coal blocks which have already started production, coal from two blocks namely Gotitoria (East) and Gotitoria (West) which are small and isolated patches coal is allowed to be sold for specified end use.

(ii) Coal from remaining 11 blocks are meant for captive use and accordingly supplied to its associated end use plants.

(iii) Some blocks have been allocated to State Government companies for commercial mining. However, none of them has started production as yet.